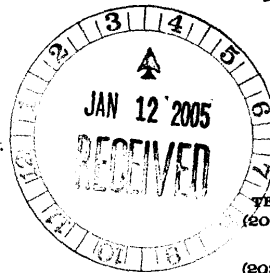


2/2995

WILLIAM L. SLOVER
C. MICHAEL LOFTUS
DONALD G. AVERY
JOHN H. LE SEUR
KELVIN J. DOWD
ROBERT D. ROSENBERG
CHRISTOPHER A. MILLS
FRANK J. PERGOLIZZI
ANDREW B. KOLESAR III
PETER A. PFOHL
DANIEL M. JAFFE
KAREN HASSELL HERREN
KENDRA A. ERICSON

SLOVER & LOFTUS
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1224 SEVENTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036-3003



TELEPHONE:
(202) 347-7170

FAX:
(202) 347-3619

WRITER'S E-MAIL:

January 12, 2005

rd@slopeandloftus.com

BY HAND DELIVERY

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 711
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JAN 12 2005

Part of
Public Record

Re: Ex Parte No. 558 (Sub-No. 8), Railroad Cost of Capital - 2004

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter constitutes the notice of intent of the Western Coal Traffic League ("WCTL") to participate in the above-referenced proceeding in response to the Board's decision served December 20, 2004.

WCTL wishes to reserve the right to file a statement on April 25, 2005, responding to the March 28, 2005 submission of the railroads, and wishes to receive copies of any submissions made by other parties to the Board as well as any releases from the Board.

Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions relating to this notice of intent to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Rosenberg

Robert D. Rosenberg
An Attorney for the Western Coal
Traffic League

RDR:kaw